

REMARKS

Claims 1-10 are pending in the present application.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 5, 6, and 6-10 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Taniguro et al. (USP 6,293,670). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Taniguro discloses, in Figs. 8A and 9, a recording apparatus that includes a platen 34. The platen 34 forms a face extending from an upstream end of a recording head in a conveyance direction of a recording sheet P via a bent portion 34a to a slant portion 342 which extends downward (see col. 8, lines 45-52).

In Taniguro, however, fails to disclose or suggest that the slant portion 342 (corresponds to the “space” of the claimed invention of the present application) is formed “only at a region corresponding to a corner portion of the recording medium to-be guided.” Accordingly, Taniguro fails to disclose or suggest the “guide means” as recited in claim 5.

Claim 6 has been amended to include all of the limitations recited in allowable claim 1. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 6 is now in condition for allowance.

Claims 7-9, dependent on claim 6, are allowable at least for their dependency on claim 6.

Claim 10 is allowable at least for the similar reasons as stated in the foregoing with respect to claim 5.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw this rejection.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claim 7 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Taniguro in view of Takagi (JP 1-75050). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 7, dependent on 6, is allowable at least for its dependency on claim 6.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw this rejection.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's indication that claims 1-4 are allowable over the prior art of record.

Conclusion

Accordingly, in view of the above amendments and remarks, reconsideration of the rejections and objections, and allowance of the pending claims are earnestly solicited.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Maki Hatsumi (#40,417) at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

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If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or to credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

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Respectfully submitted,

By 

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